

REMARKS

Claims 5-7, 9-11, 16-18, 20-22, 27-29, and 31-32 are pending in this application.

Claims 4-11, 15-22, and 26-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claims the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Claims 1-2, 4, 12-13, 15, 23-24, and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,459,690 to LeStrat et al. (hereinafter “LeStrat”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,134,230 to Olofsson et al. (hereinafter “Olofsson”). Claims 3, 14, and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over LeStrat in view of Olofsson and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,640,105 to Shin. Claims 8, 19, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over LeStrat in view of Olofsson and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,631,124 to Koorapaty et al.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 5-7, 9-11, 16-18, 20-22, 27-29, and 31-32 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By the foregoing amendments, Applicant has canceled claims 1-4, 8, 12-15, 19, 23-26, and 30. Claims 5-7, 9-11, 16-18, 20-22, 27-29, and 31-32 have been

Applicant: Zeira et al.
Application No.: 09/854,954

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figure 2. These sheets, which include formal drawings for all the figures, replace the original sheets containing Figures 1-7D. In Figure 2, the reference numeral for the MSC was changed from 34 to 30, to correctly match the numeral given to the MSC in the specification at paragraph 0005. No other changes to the drawings have been made.

Attachment: Replacement sheets (5)

Applicant: Zeira et al.
Application No.: 09/854,954

amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph and to appear in independent form.

For the Examiner's convenience, the following table indicates how the currently pending independent claims resulted from the amendments.

Independent claim number	Original claims combined
5	1, 4, and 5
9	1, 8, and 9
16	12, 15, and 16
20	12, 19, and 20
27	23, 26, and 27
31	23, 30, and 31

In the specification, Applicants have amended the text to correct a misstated device connection (paragraph 0024), an incorrect reference numeral (paragraph 0025), incorrect equation numbers (paragraphs 0035, 0043, 0046, and 0047), and a minor typographical error (paragraph 0053). No new matter has been added by these amendments.

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments and remarks made herein place pending claims 5-7, 9-11, 16-18, 20-22, 27-29, and 31-32 in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of this amendment as well as reconsideration and

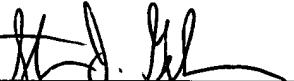
Applicant: Zeira et al.
Application No.: 09/854,954

allowance of pending claims 5-7, 9-11, 16-18, 20-22, 27-29, and 31-32 are respectfully requested.

If the Examiner does not believe that the claims are in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at 215-568-6400.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures (5)